

DEC 09 2004

PTO/SB/21 (09-04)

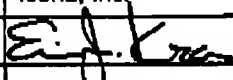
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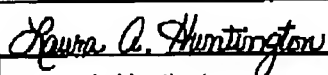
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TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/008,348	
	Filing Date	11/08/01	
	First Named Inventor	Ioana Popa-Burke	
	Art Unit	1743	
	Examiner Name	Yelena G. Gakh	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	13	Attorney Docket Number	2104US

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Assertion of Small Entity Status (1 sheet)
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Date	December 9, 2004	Reg. No.	45,941

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Typed or printed name	Laura A. Huntington	Date 12/09/04

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Laura A. Huntington
Laura A. Huntington December 9, 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Ioana Popa-Burke et al.
Application No.: 10/008,348
Filed: 08 November 2001
For: Sample Preparation System and
Associated Apparatuses and Method

Group No.: 1743
Examiner: Y. G. Gakh

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

December 9, 2004

**AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 AND
PETITION FOR A 1-MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME PURSUANT TO
37 C.F.R. § 1.136(A)**

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed August 9, 2004, reexamination and reconsideration of the above-identified application are requested in view of the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2 of the response.

Remarks responsive to the rejections begin on page 6 of the response.